



STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR
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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
EUGENE I. GESSOW, DIRECTOR

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 781

TO: Iowa Medicaid Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) Providers

ISSUED BY: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise

RE: Additional ASC Billing Codes Payable by Iowa Medicaid

DATE: February 9, 2009

EFFECTIVE: January 1, 2009

The purpose of this informational release is to notify ASCs of additional CPT and HCPCS Level II procedure codes payable to ASCs, effective January 1, 2009.

On January 1, 2008, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) implemented revisions to the Medicare payment system for ASC services. Although through this process, Medicare was changing its larger reimbursement methodology for ASC services, the Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME) determined that it would continue its current methodology of reimbursing ASC services based on assignment of procedure codes to one of nine ASC payment groups. While Iowa Medicaid may adopt Medicare coverage and/or payment policies and methodologies, in full or in part, it is not obligated to do so. However, that notwithstanding, the IME did undertake a review of the new Medicare-covered procedures to determine which of those corresponding procedure codes would be covered by Iowa Medicaid within the existing ASC payment methodology.

In light of the review discussed above, the IME Medical Services Unit has determined that 199 of the new Medicare-covered ASC procedures would be covered under Iowa Medicaid's existing ASC payment methodology. These new codes will be effective January 1, 2009. A list of the new ASC codes can be found at the following link: <http://www.ime.state.ia.us/Providers/index.html>. Click on **Additional ASC Billing Codes** in the Quick Links column on the right side of the page.

The IME appreciates your partnership as we work together to serve the needs of Iowa Medicaid members. If you have any questions, please contact IME Provider Services, telephone 1-800-338-7909, locally 515-725-1004 or by e-mail at: imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us